



# SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

Volume 23 • Issue 2

August 2017

[www.sitmnhv.org](http://www.sitmnhv.org)

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## Calendar

- Aug. 24 – VPs Technical & Service
- Aug. 24 – Wine Tasting, 6-8 p.m., the Lounge
- Aug. 31 – Health Committee
- Sept. 7 – Fundraising
- Sept. 12 – Board meeting, 5:30 p.m., Bristlecone Family Resources
- Sept. 14 – Business Meeting
- Sept. 16 – District 5 Meeting, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Atlantis
- Sept. 21 – Education Youth
- Sept. 28 -- Membership

## SITM Meets...

**Thursdays at Noon**  
 at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa  
 Second Floor Convention Center  
 \$20 for lunch  
 RSVP to [sitmtruckeemeadows@hotmail.com](mailto:sitmtruckeemeadows@hotmail.com)  
 no later than noon on the Tuesday before the Thursday meeting.

### Soroptimist Is:

a global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.



## Are Soroptimists Smarter Than a Fifth Grader?

The answer to that questions was put to the test at the August 3 meeting when members were asked to join their tablemates in assembling a “lunar lander”. Each table was given a small collection of index cards, marshmallows, rubber bands, straws, masking tape, a plastic bag, and a small cup which became the module to carry the small marshmallow astronauts.

The idea was to construct the lunar lander in such a way that when it was

(Eating the astronauts was prohibited.)

Dream It. Be It. (DIBI) Co-Coordinator Kay Dunham introduced the exercise as part of the STEM curriculum, SITM's

newest service committee plans to engage with fourth and fifth-grade girls at Hunter Lake Elementary School.

DIBI Co-Coordinator Patty Mamola gave a presentation on the importance of the DIBI program for girls – to bring self-esteem; encourage science,



DIBI Co-Coordinator Patty Mamola



dropped from waist level it landed and the astronauts did not leave the module.

[Continued on page 2](#)

## Sell Those Calendars

The 2018 “Ghosts” vintage airplane calendars are available for sale now. The new price is \$17 per calendar, an increase due to increased shipping costs. Club members are asked to sell five calendars, with money turned in or calendars returned by September 1 (so extras can be sold at the Reno National Championship Air Races, September 13-17).

For members not wishing to sell calendars, but who are willing to buy calendars, they will be donated to the VA Hospital, Veterans Guest House or other veteran organizations. Just write “veterans” on your check, or let Doris Phelps know of your wishes.

Calendar sales support SITM's numerous service projects.



Members of the Air Race Committee ready to issue calendars to members, are from left: Coordinator Diana Dillon, Doris Phelps, Kay Dunham and Paula Ringkob.

Continued from page 1

technology, engineering and math skills (STEM); foster a growth mindset in the girls; and bring community benefits.

The committee is looking for volunteers willing to work with the girls. Volunteers are required to be fingerprinted and have a background check through Washoe County School District. Patty has the forms available.

Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls is a program of Soroptimist International of the Americas designed to help girls grow up to be strong, successful, happy adults. It provides girls with access to professional role models, career education and the resources to live their dreams.



Marilyn Pearson, right, brought her "little" Jackie Hernandez, from the Big Brothers; Big Sisters program, to the meeting and their table won the contest.



Taking a taller approach to the lunar lander were Chris Fegert and Valerie Hahn.

Piper Mullen shows off the creative works from her table.



Using the plastic bag as a parachute, Cindy Burk, in the middle, prepares to drop her table's lunar lander.



Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows  
**Wine Tasting and Fundraiser**

**\$20.00 Per Person**  
 (All proceeds support SITM)

**August 24<sup>th</sup> From 6-8:00 PM**

We will be raffling off 1 bottle of each wine during the event (total of 4 Bottles) **Must be Present to Win**

**A full Bar and various small bites will be available for purchase during the event**

Lounge - 770 S Meadows Pkwy, Ste. 110 - Reno, NV



yelp  
**Lounge**  
 ★★★★★ 2 Yelp reviews

Lounge - Home | Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/loungereno](http://www.facebook.com/loungereno)  
 ★★★★★ 5/5

**LIMITED SEATING - Must RSVP w/Payment**  
**Jennifer Burnitt**  
[sitmjen@gmail.com](mailto:sitmjen@gmail.com) / (775) 338-0020

**Have you Picked-Up Your 50/50 Raffle Tickets Yet?**

Every week the Fundrai\$ing Committee is at our Thursday luncheon meetings ready to distribute 50/50 raffle tickets to members for sale. Members are asked to sell tickets for \$10 each or three tickets for \$25. Co-Coordinator Penney Leezy and Barbara Atwell have packets of 15 or 21 tickets for members to pick up to sell. They will also take your sales proceeds and ticket stubs at each meeting.

The winning ticket will be drawn at the SITM meeting on December 14 and the owner will receive 50% of the total amount raised. The goal is to sell \$10,000 worth of tickets and the club will split the proceeds with the winner. Last year's winning ticket-holder pocketed \$3,060.

Proceeds from the ticket sales support SITM's many service projects in the community.

			<b>Raffle Ticket</b>
Soroptimi Internatio Truckee M	Soroptimi Internatio Truckee M	Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows	Drawing to be held on
319	319	3192	<b>Thursday, December 14th, 2017</b>
			<b>12:30 PM</b>
			Make checks payable to SITM
			Winner need not be present to win
			<b>Cash Grand Prize</b>
			<b>50 / 50 RAFFLE</b>
			\$10 Per Ticket or 3 for \$25



As part of the July 27 kick-off of "Ghosts" calendar sales, Coordinator Diana Dillon engaged members in a game of a Day at the Races 2017 "word search" of 30 different words associated with the Reno National Championship Air Races. The "winners" of the game were, from left: Eve Johnson, Marilyn Pearson, Penney Leezy, Patty Mamola and Lynne Catrow.

## From Old West Attire to Little Girls' Dresses; It's All About the Sewing

By Faye Andersen

Where would SITM be without our Soroptimisters? They work at the garage sales; they haul and deliver piles of afghans; they help us wrap, sort and deliver Christmas presents; they tend bar at our fundraising events. They do whatever is asked of them to support our members and our causes.

Those are the actions we all see and applaud them for their assistance. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to do all we do without them.

With the announcement of Sierra Nevada Region Governor Vicki Watson's adoption of the international project, "Dress a Girl Around the World", one of our Soroptimisters has stepped forward with some unanticipated assistance for SITM and the region project. After listening to his wife Penney discuss the project, George Leezy took an interest in sewing some of the dresses.



*George Leezy*

Yes, you may pause to read that last sentence again.

Of all of the tasks we ask of our Soroptimisters, sewing doesn't usually come to mind. But it comes naturally to Penney Leezy's husband George, as an outgrowth of his passion for Cowboy Fast Draw Competitions. (Think of a Western genre movie with gunslingers having a "showdown" in the middle of town.) There are no face-offs in these competitions. Competitors quickly draw a pistol and fire it accurately at a target. George is an accomplished "quick drawer" and has competed in contests in Arizona, Idaho, Oregon and Nevada to name a few. His nickname is the "Choctaw Kid".

That's where his interest in sewing began. Many of the participants dress the part of the "Old West" for competitions. Without previous sewing experience, George bought his first sewing machine. (Penney admits she doesn't sew at all.) That's when he sewed his own Western vests, duster, and scarves and made his own Indian boots and moccasins he wears in "quick draw" competitions. Today George owns three sewing machines including one serger machine.

According to Penney, one day recently George was on his way to Harbor Freight, a local tool



store. She had been telling him about the Dress a Girl project. He asked her for the paperwork (including patterns and specifications for Dress a Girl) and announced he was also going to stop at Jo-Ann Stores, a fabric and crafts store in the same shopping center.

What happened next was truly amazing.

George walked into Jo-Ann Stores and met with the assistant store manager. He explained the Dress a Girl project and Soroptimists' planned participation. He was granted a 50%+ discount, spending \$128 (and saving \$169 off the retail price) on enough fabric and materials to sew 15 dresses for girls aged 4-to-12 years of age.

Today, George is busy working on the dresses in between his other interests. He expects to have all 15 dresses completed in late September or early October.

George isn't the only member of Penney's family that possesses the sewing gene. Sister Linda Webber has also been busy cutting out patterns and sewing additional dresses. She has already completed several dresses in various sizes and hopes to have more than two dozen finished this fall.

Much like the 150 afghans crocheted each year for the VOA Shelter in Reno by members, family and friends; it looks like dresses for Dress a Girl may share the same destiny. It takes a village. But this time, it includes a dedicated Soroptimister who is contributing to the sewing.

Thanks George and Linda!



*George's first effort at sewing a dress .*



*George and Penney Leezy with CJ at a Cowboy Fast Draw competition in Idaho.*

## “Dress a Girl” Project Officially Underway at SITM

At the August Business Meeting, VP/ Service Penney Leezy used “show and tell” to display eight different dresses made for Sierra Nevada Region Governor Vicki Watson’s international project and partnership with, “Dress a Girl Around the World”.

The project is an existing endeavor by Hope 4 Women International and Governor Vicki is asking each club to participate by sewing dresses, donating fabric and materials, or donating money for others to sew the dresses.



VP/Service Penney Leezy outlines details of the “Dress a Girl Around the World” project while District 5 Director Sarah Carrasco and Margie Hermanson displayed samples of dresses already made.

The dresses shown were sewn by Penney’s sister Linda and husband George, and by Kay Dunham. She hopes to have 75-100 dresses sewn by mid-April in time for the Sierra Nevada Region Conference. District 5 Director Sarah Carrasco is the liaison to take the dresses to the ambassadors in northern California for distribution around the world.

For interested members willing to do the sewing, Penney has sewing instructions available each Thursday at the Fundraising Table at the back of the room. Sewing handbooks, instructions, patterns, sizing charts

and some important “do’s and don’ts” can also be found on the organization’s website at [www.dressagirlaroundtheworld.org](http://www.dressagirlaroundtheworld.org).

A special “Dress a Girl” patch is to be added to each dress. Some studies reveal that girls wearing logoed attire, signifying they are part of an organized group are less likely to be kidnapped or abducted by human trafficking rings.



Dresses sewn by Kay Dunham and Linda Webber.



### Dress a Girl Around the World

Imagine a world where every girl owned at least one dress

### Want to Help?

Members and friends have three ways to help with this project.

1. Volunteer to sew the dresses.  
*Depending upon your sewing expertise, each dress takes 2-4 hours to complete.*
2. Donate fabric and materials  
*A single yard of material, depending upon dimensions, with accessories are needed for one dress.*
3. Donate money toward fabric and accessories for the dresses  
*For just \$5-\$10 per dress (depending on girls’ sizes of 4 to 12), you can help “Dress a Girl”. Add an extra \$1 per dress and an appropriate sized girl’s panty will be included in the pocket.*

**See Penney Leezy with you donation of money or materials.**

## “Working as a Team”

Saturday, September 16, 2017, 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.

District 5 Fall Meeting

Lunch cost \$21

Atlantis Hotel Casino Resort Spa



SITM is hosting this year’s Fall District Meeting.

The “Call to Meeting” is available on the SNR E-Blast, or see meeting registrar Kay Dunham. Complete a registration form prior to September 8 to avoid a \$10 late fee.

Governor Vicki’s Report on SNR and SIA

Live Your Dream Program

Presentation by Pam Russell, E.D. of  
Women & Children Center of the Sierra

Reports from the Nine Club Presidents

Please bring a package of diapers (sizes 4, 5 & 6) with you to donate to WACCS.

## Beads for Strength Featured by Renown Health

One of the little known SITM projects that has a big impact on some cancer patients, received some recent recognition from Renown Health’s “Best Medicine News” online newsletter.

SITM’s “Beads for Strength” program began in 2009 and includes member-crafted bracelets for patients undergoing treatments at the Renown Health Infusion Center. When the patients finish their treatment the nurses offer them their choice of the beaded bracelets. They also contain inspirational words, like: believe, love, life, live, hope and encouragement,

At the June 1 meeting where members tried their hand at beading the bracelets, Tori DellaRocca from Renown attended, took photos and wrote a story for the “Best Medicine News.” The story entitled “Handmade Bracelets a Labor of Love for Cancer Patients” quotes Bev Perkins, a founder and organizer of the beading project, describing details of the bead-making process and purpose.

Kay Dunham is also quoted as saying, “It’s a labor of love for us. It’s to show empowerment and to help these women know there are people who are encouraged by them.”

Here is the link to the online story: <http://bestmedicineneeds.org/cancer-care/soroptimists-make-bracelets-for-women-completing-cancer-treatment/>

## Handmade Bracelets a Labor of Love for Cancer Patients



## Perfect Attendance Awards Presented to 23 Members

Twenty-three members were recognized at the August Business Meeting for Perfect Attendance during the 2016-17 Club Year. That's a cumulative total of 226 years, with members ranging from one to 35-years of Perfect Attendance. Congratulation to these members.

- 1 Year** ..... Carmela Cipollina
- ..... Chris Fegert
- ..... Annette Friedlander
- ..... Rikki Hensley-Ricker
- ..... Jeanne Naccarato
- ..... Doris Phelps
- 3 Years** ..... Jennifer Burnitt
- ..... Anna McArdle
- 4 Years** ..... Barbara Atwell
- ..... Vivian Ruiz
- 5 Years** ..... Pam Sutton
- 6 Years** ..... Dot Watts
- 8 Years** ..... Vicki Schultz
- 9 Years** ..... Patty Downs
- 10 Years** ..... Margie Hermanson
- ..... Marilyn Pearson
- ..... Paula Ringkob
- 14 Years** ..... Bev Perkins
- 20 Years** ..... Diana Dillon
- 21 Years** ..... Kay Dunham
- 27 Years** ..... Pam Robinson
- 31 Years** ..... Faye I. Andersen
- 35 Years** ..... Jo Ann Roberts

### How to Achieve Perfect Attendance

SITM meets 47 weeks of the year, going dark (no meeting) for 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Hot August Nights, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's – 46 weeks when Veteran's Day falls on Thursday. In addition, each member is allowed to miss two weeks each year for vacation, and still be considered "perfect".

So, did these members pictured below attend all of those meetings in order to achieve Perfect Attendance? Probably not. They participated in "make-up" meetings, designated by the club to encourage members to participate outside of the weekly Thursday meetings.

If you miss a regular Thursday meeting, here are some ways you can make-up the absence by attending the following:

#### One make-up

- SITM Board Meeting (all members are welcome).
- Meetings of other Soroptimist Clubs
- Fall or Winter District Meetings
- Working at a major club project or fundraiser (one make-up per shift)
- Sierra Nevada Region Board meetings

#### One make-up for each day of attendance at:

- Sierra Nevada Region Conference
- Soroptimist Development Retreat

#### Five Make-ups for attending

- Federation Biennial or International Quadrennial Conventions

Except for club board meetings, club projects or major fundraisers, each member is responsible for notifying the Attendance Coordinator of authorized make-ups. Details shall include name of meeting, date and location. On club projects and major fundraisers, the committee coordinator will submit a list of participants to the Attendance Coordinator.

*Members achieving Perfect Attendance for 2016 -17 were recognized at the August Business Meeting.*



## Are you Receiving ALL of your Soroptimist Communications?

Besides the weekly "Race Results" meeting re-caps and the monthly club newsletter, did you know there are newsletters and communiques from the Sierra Nevada Region, the Soroptimist International of the Americas Federation and Soroptimist International? Here's how to sign-up to receive these:

**SNR E-Blast** – an every-other-week, emailed newsletter from the region. Each issue leads with a message from Governor Vicki Watson and she usually covers the latest in region and SIA news. There are other posts from clubs like SITM advertising fundraisers, or invitations to events, or region coordinators offering advice and instructions on region projects. E-Blast Sign-up from: <http://www.soroptimistsnr.org/node/88>

**SIA Soroptimist Summary** – monthly electronic blog from the Soroptimist International of the Americas Federation. Primarily featured are news snippets with links to complete stories of federation activities. Subscribe by scrolling to the bottom, lower right and add your email. <http://www.soroptimistsummary.org/>

**Global Voice** – electronic newsletter every-other-month from Soroptimist International. Covers SI activities, as well as short stories about what's happening in the four federations. <http://www.soroptimistinternational.org/tag/csw-blogs/> -- scroll down to "Global Voice Sign-up" and add your name and email address.

**SIA Website** – There's a huge wealth of information about Soroptimist in general, Live Your Dream; Dream It, Be It; Ruby Award; Laurel Society; etc. There is a good search feature to help you find what you're looking for. The landing page for the website contains a revolving number of most important and current information at [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org).

To get into the "members only" section you need to sign-up.

Click on the "Member's Only" tab; find the "Update Your Member Profile" link; follow the instructions to login.

[http://www.soroptimist.org/rise/i/Core/Contacts/Sign\\_In.aspx?WebsiteKey=cae524c4-2571-4bb4-81a6-daa953ab1115&LogInRedirect=true&returnurl=%2frise%2fMemberProfile](http://www.soroptimist.org/rise/i/Core/Contacts/Sign_In.aspx?WebsiteKey=cae524c4-2571-4bb4-81a6-daa953ab1115&LogInRedirect=true&returnurl=%2frise%2fMemberProfile)

You'll need your Soroptimist member number to sign-in as your user name. You can get that from General Fund Treasurer Kay Dunham.

### How to Raise Funds for SITM Without Really Trying

You can support Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows by shopping and swiping your Rewards Card, entering your phone number and designating SITM to receive a percentage of your qualified purchases.



Sign-up by visiting [www.SmithsCommunityRewards.com](http://www.SmithsCommunityRewards.com). Create an account and designate SITM. Our organization number is #17204, or search "Sor" to find SITM. Swipe your Smith's card each time you shop.

If you do not have a Smiths Rewards Card, they are available in store at the service desk and there is no charge. SITM will receive 3% of all eligible purchases.



Sign up at [www.escrip.com/shares/](http://www.escrip.com/shares/) with your email, your 10-digit phone number and create a password. Then designate SITM as your chosen charity. Our group ID number is 500825778. SITM can earn up to 3% back on qualified purchases at Save Mart Supermarkets (excluding items like alcohol, tobacco and milk).



Shop at AmazonSmile. Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). You can use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, select SITM to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.



Register for eScrip + Benefits at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) and download the Benefits App to your mobile phone. Link your app to your credit card or bank account and pay for your purchases, in person and online, using the app (instead of an individual credit or debit card). When you sign up, select SITM as your favorite nonprofit and the club will receive a percentage of your purchase, depending upon the merchant. Lists of participating merchants can be found on [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com).

## August Board & Business Recap

By Faye I. Andersen

Several motions were approved by the membership at the August Board and Business Meetings and members with Perfect Attendance were recognized.

### New Dress a Girl Project Approved

VP/Service Penney Leezy proposed and the membership approved a motion asking members to donate time and resources to sew, or donate materials or money toward the sewing of dresses for girls. This is SNR Governor Vicki Watson's international project in partnership with Dress a Girl Around the World. Penney displayed several dresses already sewn and had instructions available for members interested in sewing. See page 5 for the complete story.

### IGU Activities Approved for the New Year

IGU Committee Co-Coordinator Monica House brought a motion from the committee to conduct their annual Nepal Pledge Drive in March and one final garage sale, planned for June 1-2, with funds raised to be designated for dormitory improvements. The girls' dorm in Thulipokhari, Nepal is in need of a new roof. Both activities were approved. Drop-offs for the garage sale can still be taken to Ethan Allen for storage until spring.

Monica also gave a brief update on the girls' scholarships. Every one of the 13 girls enrolled in higher education classes as part of the SI Grant (Educate to Lead: Nepal) has returned for their second year of classes.

### District 5 Fall Meeting is September 16

SITM is hosting the fall meeting this year. Committee Coordinator Faye I. Andersen presented a brief outline of responsibilities and duties in the works to prepare for the meeting to be held Saturday, September 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Atlantis in Reno. Cost for lunch is \$21. First time attendees are paid for by the club.

Faye encouraged members to register for the meeting before September 8 to avoid a late charge. Registration forms are available from Meeting Registrar Kay Dunham. SITM will be conducting a fundraising raffle at the meeting. Joining Faye and Kay on the committee are: Penney Leezy, Margie Hermanson, Jeanne Naccarato and Jo Ann Roberts. See more details on page 6.

### Public Awareness Committee Needs Your Help

VP/Technical is seeking members for the Public Awareness Committee to carry out all forms of external communications about club activities, events and news. The committee is responsible for SITM's Website, social media and print and broadcast channels, among other duties.

If you are interested, or if you have talents in these areas, please contact VP/Technical Dot Watts.

### Money Matters

A total of \$176 in July Happy Dollars were collected for Nevada Hopes. Happy Dollars for August are designated for Care Chest of Sierra Nevada.

Air Race Committee member and calendar sales guru Doris Phelps reported that she has already collected \$1,600 from members in calendar sales.

### Membership Changes

Lynn Robins remains on leave of absence through August for on-going medical issues.



*President Rikki Hensley-Ricker was the only member with an August birthday in attendance at the August Business Meeting. Hospitality Committee member Jean Neddenriep made the presentation and led the singing.*

## SIA's Report on Club Giving for 2016-2017

If you're a member of a club that participated in Club Giving, we want to extend our utmost thanks to you. The extraordinary final total of Club Giving in the 2016-2017 recognition period was more than \$700,000, raised from nearly 1,000 clubs! Because of Soroptimists working together, our Dream Program recipients are keeping their electricity on and studying into the night—thanks for making the world a brighter place.

### Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards

SIA's major project, this program (formerly the Women's Opportunity Awards program) assists women by giving them the resources they need to improve their education, skills and job prospects.

### Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls

This new global program provides girls in secondary school with access to professional role models, career education and the resources to live their dreams.

## SITM Update

*Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows*

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### Contributing to this issue

Jo Ann Roberts  
 Jennifer Burnitt  
 Penney Leezy  
 Sarah Carrasco  
 Anna McArdle

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[www.sitmnev.org](http://www.sitmnev.org)

**Board Meets monthly on Tuesday**  
 following the first Thursday, 5:30 p.m.  
 Bristlecone Family Resources  
 704 Mill St., Reno

### SITM Board 2016-17

President  
 Rikki Hensley-Ricker  
 President – Elect  
 Jeanne Naccarato  
 VP/Technical  
 Dot Watts  
 VP/Service  
 Penney Leezy  
 Recording Secretary  
 Patty Mamola  
 Corresponding Secretary  
 Carol Dinneen

Treasurer/General Fund  
 Kay Dunham  
 Treasurer/Service Fund  
 Lynne Catrow  
 Director, 2 Years  
 Jennifer Burnitt  
 Director, 1 Year  
 Vivian Ruiz  
 Delegate  
 Valerie Hahn  
 Alternate Delegate  
 Moshay Akala  
 Parliamentarian  
 Doris Phelps



For information about our organization, check out these Soroptimist Websites:

Sierra Nevada Region: [www.soroptimistsnr.org](http://www.soroptimistsnr.org)

Soroptimist International of the Americas: [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)

Soroptimist International: [www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org)



## Did you know . . .

## Soroptimist International Board Restructured

At the July 28, 2017 SI Final Board Meeting of the 2015- 2017 biennium, the directors unanimously agreed to restructure the SI board size and composition.

The SI Board took this decision to be cost effective while retaining significant involvement of its member Federations, all designed to align with the SI Board's 2016 – 2019 Strategic Plan approved in 2016.

The new structure ensures that Soroptimist International's governance model will involve its Directors with a focus on providing appropriate skills, and will lead the company to focus on its mission in a more nimble and effective manner.

The existing SI governance structure of 12 voting Directors, 4 officers, and various committees will be reduced. The newly restructured SI Board will be composed of two representatives from each Federation, the SI President, SI Treasurer and SI Director of Advocacy. Going forward, SI Directors will chair the committees of Governance, Finance, Communications, Advocacy, Convention, and Presidents Appeal.

The new SI board structure will be implemented on January 1, 2018. Future SI Boards will commence on January 1 of even numbered years, e.g., 2020, 2022, 2024, etc.

The Soroptimist International Board believes this new structure is more appropriate to the SI Mission and clarity of purpose of SI as set out in the SI Strategic Plan, and better aligned with SI's key strategic priorities. The SI Board is confident this restructuring is a bold step forward which will lead Soroptimist International well into the future.

**Yvonne Simpson, SI Immediate Past President/Chair of 2015-17 Final Board Meeting**